

Townhill Junior School

Weekly Update: 16th May



Year 6 SATs Week

This week saw the culmination of four years of hard work and learning as Year 6 undertook their SATs Tests. The children came in early each day for a special SATs breakfast before their tests and then worked brilliantly all week. The rest of the school also supported them by being quiet and respectful throughout and I am grateful to all the staff who helped through the week.

The week ended with a relaxed day on Friday including art work, party games and a picnic. We were very grateful for the amount of food generously provided by our families and the children really enjoyed unwinding after a busy week.



Careers Fair



Next Friday afternoon, we have our Year 6 Careers Fair where the children learn about different jobs and how you go about getting into that industry. Based on their chosen interests, we would still like to hear from a chef, a mechanic, an electrician and someone in the sports coaching industry. If you are available and would be able to talk to the children about your job, please make Mr H or the Year 6 staff aware.

Star of the Week

Class	Name
3G	Donat
3T	Billy
4T	Jesaiah
4P	Veronika
5I	Kara
5OH	Jimmy
6S	All of 6S
6C	All of 6C
6O	All of 6O
PE	Ava T (4P)
Music	Freddie (6O)

Times Tables Rocks Leaderboard

Rank	First Name	Class	Improvement in Speed
1	Tymon	4T	-1.47
2	Alfie	4T	-1.29
3	Denys	6C	-1.22
4	Kaja	6O	-0.85
5	Penny	3T	-0.77
6	Gerrald	6O	-0.76
7	Bradley	6O	-0.44
8	Divino	4T	-0.42
9	Jaxon	3T	-0.41
10	Grace	6O	-0.28



9th May - 15 May 2025 07:00 - 21:00

Year 4 682

Year 5 216

Year 6 117

Year 3 114



Boom Reader



Class	Most Reads
3G	Ivy
3T	Penny
4P	Herkus
4T	Ayda
5I	Desandu
5OH	Desandi
6C	X
6O	Max B
6S	Eli
Weekly Class Winner	3G

Spelling Shed



Rank	Pupil	Class	Score	Total Score
1	Janelle O	3G	4,638,080	103,391,463
2	Mysha M	5I	4,601,690	50,163,273
3	Rhema A	3T	4,569,046	52,950,361
4	Tawfiq R	5I	1,955,928	54,020,991
5	Charis M	4P	1,634,056	137,173,870
6	Charlie S	3G	1,219,492	43,471,953
7	Hector G	5OH	1,011,062	47,300,348
8	Herkus T	4P	815,888	21,687,939
9	Peterclever	5I	713,414	16,430,955
10	Aoife P	3G	706,794	8,870,021

Current Learning

	Subject	What the children will be learning	Ideas to support with the learning at home
Y3	English	Formal letters	Practice speaking in a formal tone to an adult
	Maths	Perimeter	Measure the perimeter of different objects in the home
	Science	What plants need to live	Look at plants outside and think about how they are getting all they need (water, sun, nutrients, space, etc.)
Y4	English	Writing your non-chronological reports	Tell an adult what you will include in your own report
	Maths	Mass	See work set on www.maths.co.uk
	Games	House Cricket Competition	Watch some cricket highlights with an adult
Y5	English	Writing your non-chronological reports	Tell an adult what you will include in your own report
	Maths	Area and Perimeter	Measure the perimeter of different objects in the home and use this to calculate the area
	RE	Sacred Places	Research images of sacred places around the world to prepare for creating your own
Y6	English	Letter and diaries based on The Arrival	Write a letter to a Y5 child to reassure them about going to Y6
	Maths	Arithmetic focus	Get back on TT Rocks to improve Studio Time
	DT	Bird Boxes	Look out for different bird boxes. What is the same / different? Where are they placed and why?



Learning is the key to success

School Attendance News



Attendance Statistics

Whole School Attendance this week	94.2%	Whole School Attendance this year to date	93.9%
Number of children with over 97% attendance this week	220	Number of children with over 97% attendance this year	113



Class Attendance for this week: 27th – 31st January

Weekly Attendance	3G	3T	4P	4T	5I	5OH	6C	6O	6S
Attendance Percentage	94.7%	98.4%	95.0%	86.2%	90.2%	95.2%	100%	96.9%	98.0%
Difference on last week	+4.0%	+0%	+8.8%	-0.9%	-2.6%	-0.8%	+12.1%	+3.0%	+4.0%

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, if Your Child is Late Every Day By... Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately... or They Would Have Missed Approximately...

5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



As the bestselling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a world of digital LEGO, certain game modes include creatures accompanied by voice sound effects. These can be able to frighten younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other scenarios — although the combat is quite basic and less than any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately disrupting or destroying another player's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying — it intentionally ruins someone else's experiences by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative software, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gradual and easy-to-reverse gathering and building elements, it could have a knock-on effect on their school homework and subjects.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. With there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the scenarios around speaking with strangers online, if users who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms, which is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. With all proper supervision, younger players may end up reading unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the ability to fly is easier. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and mistakes affecting you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Having a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and — if necessary — ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety in general, is essential — as is having a plan for dealing with any threats or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Most of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like writing with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

David Corbett is a gaming editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 9 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



The National College

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@wake.up.weds

Some of this guide do so at their own discretion. See liability covered here. Content as of the date of release: 16.04.2022

Next week at Re:Minds...

19th - 23rd May 2025



Evening Advice Clinic

Wednesday 21st May 6pm

Book a 10 minute private appointment to speak with a clinician about any issues CAMHS deal with via Zoom

The clinic is led by the Southampton Specialist CAMHS Service and is open to ALL members of Re:Minds for general advice

Please note, they are unable to give information about CAMHS services outside of Southampton



ADHD Advice Clinic

Thursday 22nd May 1pm

Book a 10 minute, private, virtual Zoom appointment to speak with a member of the ADHD team at CAMHS about any issues you are facing around this topic

Email info@reminds.org.uk to book



Thornhill Support Group



Friday 23rd May 10am

A chance to talk to other parents/carers with neurodiverse children and/or mental health issues. Get advice & support from our team - it doesn't matter where you live, you can attend any group!

You can also access the book & sensory library on request

please allow 48 hours prior notice for this

Face to face meetings are at St Christopher's Church, Pappys Avenue, Thornhill, SO19 6PJ

This venue has free parking and is accessible - Refreshments are available



Please email info@reminds.org.uk to book an appointment at any of the clinics. You do not need to book to attend support groups - just turn up!



with thanks to  





BUSHCRAFT HOLIDAY CLUB

SPEND YOUR HOLIDAYS EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS!

Unleash your adventurous side at our Bushcraft Holiday Club! This one-day outdoor course is perfect for young people aged 9-14 (Year 5 and up) who are ready to explore the great outdoors and learn real bushcraft skills.

Spend the day building shelters, cooking delicious food over a campfire, mastering the use of Kelly Kettles, and trying your hand at woodworking. Whether you're a first-time explorer or an experienced adventurer, there's always something new to learn! Sign up and book your space through the QR Code →

 School holidays

 Itchen Valley Country Park, Allington Lane



www.youthoptions.org.uk
Youth Options is a registered Charity (1054463).



PRESCHOOLS
& CHILDCARE

PREVENTION

TARGETED

PROGRESSION

OUTDOOR
LEARNING




WOODLAND HOLIDAY CLUB

SPEND YOUR HOLIDAYS EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS!

Unleash your sense of adventure at our Ofsted Registered Forest School-themed holiday club!

Designed for children aged 5-11 (Year 1 and up), our holiday club offers a magical mix of outdoor activities. From shelter building and campfire cooking to woodland art, games, nature walks, and habitat exploration, there's something for every young explorer. Join us for a holiday experience full of learning, fun, and fresh air!

Sign up and book your space through the QR Code →

 School holidays

 Outdoor Learning Centre, Bishopstoke Road, Eastleigh



www.youthoptions.org.uk
Youth Options is a registered Charity (1054463).



PRESCHOOLS
& CHILDCARE

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LEARNING

Dates for the Diary

Friday, 23rd May	:	Y6 Careers Fair (pm)
	:	Break the Rules Day
26th – 30th May	:	Half Term
Friday, 6th June	:	Discos Y3/4 (5:00pm) & Y5/6 (6:45pm)
Friday, 13th June	:	Y6 Paultons Trip
Friday, 20th June	:	INSET Day
23rd – 27th June	:	Assessment Week (Y3 –5)
23rd – 27th June	:	Y6 Enterprise Week
Wednesday, 25th June	:	3G Pizza Express Trip
Wednesday, 2nd July	:	Transfer Day
	:	Year 2 Parents Evening (5:30pm)
Thursday, 3rd July	:	Y3 & Y4 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day
Friday, 4th July	:	Y5 & Y6 (9am – 11:30am) Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day: Mon 7 th July)
Tuesday, 8th July	:	Y4 Itchen Valley Teambuilding Day
Wednesday, 9th July	:	3T Pizza Express Trip
Friday, 18th July	:	Year 6 Leavers Prom (6.30pm – 8:30pm)
Monday, 21st July	:	Y6 Leavers Celebration Event (6:00pm)
Tuesday, 22nd July	:	End of Term: (3.15pm)



INSET Days for 2025/26

Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Thursday 4th September 2025
Friday 10th October 2025
Monday 23rd February 2026
Friday 19th June 2026

Wishing you all an enjoyable and relaxing weekend,

Mr H
Headteacher

